

PATENT

Att. Dkt. No. WEAT/0024.C1

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

21. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a liner in a drilled bore lined with casing, comprising:

running the liner into the bore such that the liner is positioned in an at least partially overlapping relation with the casing;

deforming the casing to define an enlarged inner diameter portion prior to running the liner into the bore; and

plastically deforming a portion of the liner to expand the portion of the liner into the overlapping casing resulting in a subsequent increase in inner and outer diameters of the liner and a corresponding increase in diameter of the casing.

22-23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the portion of liner is deformed to create a pressure-tight seal between the liner and casing.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the seal formed is a metal-to-metal seal.

26. (Previously Presented) ~~The method of claim 24, further comprising:~~ A method of installing a liner in a drilled bore lined with casing, comprising:

running the liner into the bore such that the liner is positioned in an at least partially overlapping relation with the casing;

plastically deforming a portion of the liner to expand the portion of the liner into the overlapping casing resulting in a subsequent increase in inner and outer diameters of the liner and a corresponding increase in diameter of the casing, wherein the portion of liner is deformed to create a pressure-tight seal between the liner and casing; and

providing a portion of liner to be expanded with a band of relatively soft metal which is plastically deformed during the expansion of the liner portion.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
further expanding the portion of the liner so as to radially deform a portion of the overlapping casing adjacent to the expanded portion of liner.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein deformation of the portion of the casing is plastic deformation.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein deformation of the portion of the casing is elastic deformation.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the liner is initially secured relative to the casing by deforming the liner by radially extending circumferentially spaced areas of the liner to form corresponding areas of interference fit between the liner and the casing.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
cementing the liner in the bore.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the step of cementing is achieved by:

pumping cement from a surface to the lower end of the liner,
directing the cement into the annulus between the liner and the bore wall, and
displacing fluid from the annulus.

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35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the portion of the liner is expanded once the cement is in place in the annulus.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 35, further comprising the step of:~~ A method of installing a liner in a drilled bore lined with casing, comprising:

running the liner into the bore such that the liner is positioned in an at least partially overlapping relation with the casing;

plastically deforming a portion of the liner to expand the portion of the liner into the overlapping casing resulting in a subsequent increase in inner and outer diameters of the liner; and

cementing the liner in the bore, the cementing comprising:

pumping cement from a surface to the lower end of the liner;

directing the cement into the annulus between the liner and the bore wall;

displacing fluid from the annulus; and

rotating the liner as the cement is passed into the annulus,

wherein the portion of the liner is expanded once the cement is in place in the annulus.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 21,~~ A method of installing a liner in a drilled bore lined with casing, comprising:

running the liner into the bore such that the liner is positioned in an at least partially overlapping relation with the casing; and

plastically deforming a portion of the liner to expand the portion of the liner into the overlapping casing resulting in a subsequent increase in inner and outer diameters of the liner,

wherein the liner is run into the bore on a running tool carrying an expander including a body and at least one radially extendable member mounted thereon, the running tool being rotatable to move the member around the portion of the liner to create the desired deformed portion.

38-45. (Canceled)